



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

SEP 10 2019

The Honorable Debbie Dingell
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Dingell:

Thank you for your August 21, 2019 letter concerning the closure of the Large Lakes Research Station on Grosse Ile, Michigan and the consolidation of staff with the Ann Arbor office.

Again, I appreciate the incredible support you and the community have for an EPA office located in Grosse Ile and how much you value the services our EPA staff provides. In prior correspondence, I mentioned all the factors considered in the decision to move staff out of Grosse Ile. I would like to reiterate that regardless of the location of the office, the Agency is committed to supporting all the communities covered by this field office. After relocation of the field office, the functions performed in Grosse Ile will continue in nearby Ann Arbor. EPA does not anticipate any impact on our on-scene coordinators' mobilization capability or response times with the move to Ann Arbor.

A final safety assessment of the ventilation and indoor air quality of the new Ann Arbor office location has been completed. The report associated with the safety assessment from Federal Occupational Health found the office to be acceptable for occupancy. That report was shared with our local AFGE president, staff and management on September 4. Our staff has been instructed to report to the new office on Monday, September 9 to unpack and begin work.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Eileen Deamer or Ronna Beckmann, the Region 5 Congressional Liaisons, at (312) 886-3000.

Sincerely,

Cathy Stepp
Regional Administrator